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THE
EXTRAORDINARY CASE,
AND
PERFECT CURE,
OF THE
G O U T,

BY THE USE OF
HEMLOCK AND WOLFSBANE,

As related by the Patient

Monf. l' A B B É M A N N,

Member of the Imperial Academy of Sciences and Belles
Lettres at Bruffels.

Written by the Abbé himself in FRENCH.

WITH
A TRANSLATION
BY PHILIP THICKNESSE.

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T H E

EDITOR'S PREFACE.

THE following singular, extraordinary, and permanent cure of the Gout, as related by the pen of the sufferer himself, seems to require no other establishment, to introduce the same medicines and method into general use, but the clearest proof, that what Abbé Mann has set forth, was his case, and that the medicines he took, were his cure. It is necessary therefore to say, that he is by birth a Yorkshire gentleman, who has spent the greater part of his days

on the continent, where he is admired by all men of sense and literature, who have read his writings; and beloved by all those who know him personally, for his candour, philanthropy, and universal benevolence. But it would be absurd in me to attempt making this respectable gentleman as well known to his own countrymen, as he is to our continental neighbours, by any words I could make use of, when I have before me a letter which he wrote to me in consequence of a sinister transaction at Brussels, which deprived me, for many months, while I resided there, of his edifying, instructive, and entertaining conversation. Therefore, after saying, that Abbé Mann was prior of the *Chartreux* convent at Nieuport, and that he is now a member

member of the Imperial Academy of Sciences and *Belles Lettres* at Bruffels, where he lives equally respected and admired ; I shall furnish the reader with the best introduction in my power, which can be given to make his medicine, in spite of the alarming qualities it possesses, go down WITHOUT FEAR, and RAISE UP WITH SO MUCH HOPE : but first I must apprise the English reader, not to judge of Abbé Mann's style by my explanation of his elegant French, but by his own style, in the following excellent letter written in his mother tongue to

The Editor,

Piccadilly, Aug. 4,
1784.

PHILIP THICKNESSE.

S I R,

S I R,

I WAS honored with your letter of the 26th instant, and am sorry to see the subject of it gives you so much pain ; therefore to contribute, as much as lies in me, to your tranquillity on that head, I answer it without delay. What those two worthy gentlemen, Governor Ellis and Mr. Bosville, (whose friendship I singularly esteem and cherish,) told you, is most certainly true.

When I came to return your visit, and to pay my respects to your Lady and Family, word was brought me at the apothecary's door, *qu'etant en grand visite on ne pouvoit pas me recevoir*, or in some such words as those, but precisely to the same meaning*. Being rather surprized, I asked my man repeatedly if he had asked for you by name, and if he was certain of the answer he brought me ? On his assuring it, and knowing by many years experience his exactitude and fidelity in giving or receiving a message,

I could

* A wicked contrivance of one Vandugove, the Court Apothecary, to create a misunderstanding between the Abbé and the Editor.

I could no longer doubt of it. The only sentiment it inspired me with, was to make me give way to my natural bent and tendency of mind, which inclines me almost irresistibly to retirement.

This disposition, which makes me shun connections as much as I can with decency, does not make me less a friend to mankind in general ; nor did the little accident above-mentioned, make me esteem or respect you less than before. I am conscious and intimately persuaded, that whatever happens, is for our greater good, if we will make a proper use of it ; why then should such little rubs as these, even when really grounded, disturb that tranquillity and peace of mind, which is the greatest blessing of this life ? But this same peace and equanimity is hard to preserve, amidst the strife and jarring disposition of a tumultuous world. In the throng of mankind we are apt to jostle each other, and whoever does not love to be jostled, must keep as much out of the croud,

croud, and as far from it, as the duties of the station wherein Providence has placed him, and that benevolence which he owes to his fellow-creatures, will allow.

It is on this principle that I steer my conduct, and form my way of living, which appears particular to many, as doubtless, Sir, you must have remarked during your stay at Brussels. But so long as it is prejudicial to no one, and whilst it secures me an interior peace, which I would not exchange for all the enjoyments which riches and ambition could give, I am little inclined to change it for that way of living, which the world calls more rational than mine, though my best friends blame and reproach me for it.

I do not mean to say by all this, that my way of life secures me from all rubs, and from being jostled now and then in the path of life, as well as others; but it makes me bear them with patience and tranquillity, and to look upon them as pieces of bad road,
which

which inevitably occur to every one in his journey to futurity, and which must be passed over whether we will or no : such as these, I call the repeated endeavours of several, to supplant and asperse me in the esteem of the heads of G——t, by representing me as a caballer and intriguer ; and others, to make the chief Prelates believe that I am without religion, and a secret enemy to the church : in short, hardly an obscure *brochure* or satire comes out of late, but my name is found in it. These, some would say, are rubs sufficient to merit resentment. 'Tis true ; and my resentment is to despise them in silence, to walk on quietly, and as straight as I can, in the path of life, leaving my justification to that divine Providence, who sees what I am, who will bring every thing to light in due time, and in the end will compleatly rectify all.

Excuse, my dear Sir, all the *egotism* which this letter contains, and which ill suits those sentiments I make profession of : be it as it

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may,

may, I would not have said so much of myself, and of my manner of living, had it not been to pacify your feelings on a subject which I do not think merits so much sensibility. I am at present fully persuaded, that the message which made me drop farther connections, never came from you ; but before that, nay, long before I had the honour of being personally acquainted with you, the uprightness, as well as the sensibility of your heart, attached me to you : the sentiments you saw at our first meeting were the real expression of it, another reason joined : I thought you unhappy, for a great degree of sensibility must produce pain in proportion ; and my heart is not insensible towards those that suffer.

These, my dear Sir, have been, and will continue to be, my sentiments in your regard. I am obliged to you for that esteem which you testify for me ; and how little soever I may merit it, I beg you will continue it me, for the esteem of every honest man is one of the goods of this life.

When

When you see Gov. Ellis and Mr. Bosville, I beg you will say all that is kind to them from me, and assure them of the sincere pleasure I shall have in seeing them in good health at their return through Brussels.

Believe me to be,

With the greatest respect and esteem,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

And very humble servant,

T. A. MANN.

BRUSSELS, 1783.



BEFORE the Reader is made acquainted with the following case, and cure, the Editor would observe, that the Gout is a disorder which has proved the hot-bed of empirics, and the bottomless pit of physick. Thousands of nostrums have been produced, by the former, to cure a malady which has been generally found to be incurable by the latter. Many different modes of treating this disorder, sustained by regular practitioners of great ability, have had their day, and are now forgotten. Patience and flannel are the only remedies in which they, all of them, seem to have agreed, and to which men of the first physical acumen have been obliged to come at last. Though the longitude, after so many laborious efforts, remains undiscovered, the mathematician does not quit the pursuit of that important object; and though the Gout has yet refused to yield to medicinal power, it would be weakness to despair; the time may come when some kind remedy may be found for this sad tormentor of the human frame. Many of those, whose days are deprived of enjoyment, by frequent returns of, or a continual alliance with the Gout, are induced to find a mournful consolation, in the idea that it is itself a certain, though afflicting refuge from many other more dangerous, though less painful disorders. I am not sufficiently
skilled

skilled in physic, nor have I the knowledge which experience might afford me, to support the truth, or detect the fallacy of such an opinion; I am but an *bumble minister in the Temple of Health*, when I present to the immediate attention of my countrymen a short, simple history, in which another remedy is proposed for a disorder so prevalent amongst them. The medicine which is recommended in the following sheets is not accompanied with any marvellous recitals of never failing efficacy; no pompous boast of unrivalled cure is employed to set it off; it is attended only by a single and a simple case, wherein it has been used with a success as compleat as it is uncommon. This case contains the unvarnished history of a gouty complaint through a long and painful progress of many years, in which no circumstance is omitted that can render it intelligible, and make it useful to any reader. The relation is carried on with a most minute accuracy, from the early years of the patient, to the first appearance of the Gout in his constitution; it then proceeds through all the various forms and miseries of the disorder, with an account of the different remedial applications, till that despairing period, when the medicine in question was first brought into contest with a most obitinate and violent species of this afflicting malady. The successive effects of such a measure are correctly recited, till what, I think, prejudice itself must allow, to be a perfect cure of the Gout; in this particular instance it is fully and fairly established.

That the history of this extraordinary cure is authentic, will be doubted by no one who has the happiness of knowing the gentleman who is at the
same

same time the writer, and the example of it, and whose philanthropic spirit will, I trust, be gratified by this attempt to diffuse the benefits to others, which he has so happily enjoyed himself. The Abbé Mann, adds to a profound erudition, the most liberal sentiments, and the most amiable manners ; and crowns the whole of his eminent qualifications, with every philosophic and Christian virtue. From the pen of such a man, nothing but truth can be expected, as nothing but truth will proceed.

Statues have been raised, and eulogiums written, to perpetuate the names of men who have waded to fame through INJUSTICE, BLOODSHED, and DEATH : but the man who has discovered the means of alleviating the sufferings attached to our miserable nature, is worth them all, and will be ONE DAY raised superior to them. In a publication of my own *, the observations I there made, from the happiest experience, on the stone in the gall bladder, have been of infinite use to many persons afflicted with that painful disorder ; and if, by publishing the following case in an English dress, and thereby making it more generally known, I should become an instrument in the hands of Providence to promote the cure, or even the alleviation, of any of that great number of my fellow-creatures, whose days are embittered by the pains of gouty habits, I shall possess a recompence in my own breast, which KINGS HAVE IT NOT IN THEIR POWER TO BESTOW.

P. T.

* The Valetudinarian's Bath Guide.

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*Relation d'un Cas singulier de Goutte
inveterée, guérie par un long Usage
interne des Extraits de Ciguë et
d'Aconit, préparés d'après la Me-
thode de M. de STORCK.*

L'ABBÉ MANN avoit été accoutumé à une vie active, et à beaucoup d'exercice dans sa jeunesse. Il avoit pris un goût décidé pour l'étude dès l'âge le plus tendre, et par une suite de ce même goût, il continua de cultiver assiduellement les sciences après son éducation finie, dans tous les momens de loisir que les devoirs de son état et de longs et fréquens voyages le lui permettoient. Ce goût d'application, et l'amour de la retraite qui en étoit une suite, lui firent quitter l'état militaire & l'Espagne
pour

pour se faire Chartreux en Flandre, vers l'âge de 25 ans.

En 1763, étant alors dans sa 29^{me} année, il fut atteint de douleurs arthritiques assez vives par intervalles, pendant plusieurs mois de suite, sans bien savoir ce que c'étoit. Ces douleurs dans les pieds, qui n'étoient pas assez grands pour l'empêcher de marcher, quoiqu'avec peine, ne le quitterent pas entièrement tout l'hiver de 1763 à 1764, ni le printems suivant, époque où il fut nommé Prieur de la Chartreuse Angloise à *Nieuport*. Peu de jours après cette nomination, il tomba assez grièvement malade d'une fièvre continue, laquelle fut bientôt suivie d'un accès formel de goutte dans les deux pieds. La fièvre continuant avec assez de force, celui qui traitoit sa maladie jugea à propos de le faire saigner jusqu'à trois fois. Une suite, qu'on en auroit pu prévoir, arriva en effet; la goutte disparut dans les pieds, le malade eut des nausées, des foiblesses et des maux d'estomac,

mac, dont il ne sentoît rien toutes les fois que la goutte se fixoit dans les extrémités. Cette maladie dura environ fix semaines, et l'Abbé Mann s'en remettoit avec peine & fort lentement. Durant le reste de cette année 1764, & jusqu'au printems de 1765, il eut plusieurs petits accès de goutte, quelquefois fixée dans les pieds, mais plus souvent irréguliere et vague.

Ensuite, pendant environ deux ans et demi, sa place et les affaires de sa maison, le mettant dans le cas de faire beaucoup d'exercice à pied et à cheval, sa santé se remit très bien, enforte que durant cet intervalle il n'eut aucune attaque de la goutte, ni aucune autre maladie formelle.

Avant que d'entamer la relation de ce qui suit, il ne fera pas hors de propos d'indiquer, en peu de mots, les causes les plus apparentes, qui ont contribué à rendre la constitution de l'Abbé Mann gouteuse au point qu'elle a été. Pour autant qu'il
peut

peut en juger, ce sont les suivantes : 1°. De l'année 1756 jusqu'à 1764, il s'appliqua avec beaucoup d'intensité d'esprit, guère moins que 13 à 14 heures par jour, se remettant à l'étude incessamment après les repas, et empiétant souvent pour la même fin, sur le repos nécessaire à la nature. 2°. Après son entrée dans l'ordre des *Chartreux*, son exercice à l'air cessa en grande partie. 3°. Le changement du climat d'*Espagne*, pour celui de la côte de *Flandre*, le froid excessif, auquel son état l'exposoit jour et nuit en hiver, étant à l'église pendant 7 ou 8 heures journellement, et souvent plus, dont 3 heures, pour le moins, au milieu de la nuit : tout ceci ne pouvoit que produire des effets très marqués sur son temperament.—4°. Le défaut d'un repos suffisant à ce que demande la nature, sur-tout après qu'il fut fait supérieur en 1764, ne le prenant très-fréquemment que depuis une heure après minuit jusqu'entre 5 et 6 heures du matin : en 1769, sa mauvaise santé l'obligea, malgré lui, de changer

changer cette coutume.—5°. Enfin, une application d'esprit presque sans relâche, et souvent de nuit, autant, ou plus que de jour.

Ce sont, à ce que croit l'*Abbé Mann*, les principales causes qui rendirent sa constitution goutteuse à un extrême degré, enforte que depuis l'automne de 1768 jusqu'à l'été de 1779, il n'a jamais passé d'année, sans avoir deux, trois ou quatre accès formels de cette cruelle maladie ; et il peut dire, avec vérité, que pendant ce long intervalle, il a rarement joui de plus de trois ou quatre mois de l'année d'une santé passable et sans souffrances actuelles de la goutte, soit régulière soit irrégulière. Quelques détails touchant quelques-uns des accès les plus considérables qu'il a eus, feront connoître plus clairement l'état où il s'est trouvé.

Au mois de Septembre 1768, la goutte
attaqua son estomac pendant deux se-
maines, avec les symptômes ordinaires de
C nausées,

nausées, maux, &c. et ensuite la poitrine et les poumons, avec une suffocation et un étranglement insupportables. Le médecin le fit saigner deux fois aux pieds, et le malade s'en trouva plus mal pendant quelque tems.

Au mois de Janvier 1770, des affaires pressantes de sa maison l'obligerent de partir pour *Bruxelles* et *Malines*, par une saison très rude, et dans un moment où il étoit menacé d'un accès de goutte. Il souffrit pendant ce voyage au-delà de toute expression, sur-tout dans l'estomac et dans les reins. La gravelle se manifesta à cette occasion, et ensuite accompagna ordinairement tous les accès de goutte qu'il a eus. Ce fut avec beaucoup de peine, et des douleurs inexprimables, qu'il revint de ce voyage, qui dura près de trois semaines.

Etant de retour chez lui, on lui appliqua des cataplasmes, qui attirèrent la goutte dans les deux pieds et dans la main droite :

droite : elle y resta entre 5 et 6 semaines, d'une maniere assez réguliere. Mais un de ces cataplasmes enveloppant la cheville du pied gauche, y attira les humeurs avec tant de force, qu'elles percerent au-dessus de la malléole interne, et y coulerent pendant quelques mois, laissant ensuite une foiblesse dans cette jambe, dont il se ressent encore. Au mois de *Mars*, et au moment qu'il croyoit être délivré de cet accès, la goutte attaqua de nouveau les viscères, surtout l'estomac et les reins, et ce cruel fléau se renouvela chaque 8 ou 10 jours jusqu'au 22 *Avril*, qu'il se renforça avec des douleurs les plus violentes et aiguës, des contractions de nerfs les plus insupportables, et des vomissemens continuels de tout ce qu'il prenoit, médecines, boissons, &c. &c. et ce cruel état, dans lequel on désespéroit de sa vie, durant pendant 4 jours et 3 nuits, sans qu'il eût un instant de repos. Il seroit impossible d'exprimer l'excès de ces souffrances. Il en eût des rechûtes jusques vers la fin du mois de *Mai*; et les

fréquens vomissemens ne cessèrent que plus d'une année ensuite : enfin les indigestions, les continuelles aigreur, et les violentes cardialgies ne le quitterent plus qu'avec la goutte même plus de 9 ans après, comme il sera indiqué plus bas.

Pendant deux ans de suite, il eut plusieurs accès de la goutte, la plupart réguliers ; c'est à dire, dans les pieds et les mains, sans beaucoup souffrir intérieurement. La première partie attaquée dans ces accès, étoit toujours la main droite, puis le pied droit, ensuite le pied gauche, et enfin, quoique plus rarement, la main gauche. Ces attaques duroient ordinairement 3 ou 4 semaines ; mais au commencement de 1772, il en eut une qui dura deux fois autant, occupant, en même tems, avec beaucoup de violence et avec les plus vives douleurs les deux pieds et la main droite. Celui-ci fut l'accès le plus fort et le plus douloureux de la *goutte régulière*, que *L'Abbé Mann* ait jamais eu,

Au commencement de l'été de 1772, se trouvant dans un état toujours plus ou moins infirme, et souffrant sans cesse des indigestions, des aigreurs et de violens maux d'estomac, plusieurs de ses amis lui conseillèrent d'essayer le régime prescrit par le *Docteur Cadogan*, Médecin de *London*, dans un *Traité sur la Goutte*, qui faisoit alors beaucoup de bruit et de sensation. Ce régime consistoit principalement à faire de l'exercice, à l'air, et éviter toute boisson fermentée et toute nourriture qui pourroit tourner en acides par la digestion. En conséquence de ce conseil, avec un estomac très froid, très affoible, et très relâché, *L'Abbé Mann* se mit à boire de l'eau pure pendant près de 4 mois, et à suivre le reste du régime prescrit, autant que son état pouvoit le permettre. Deux fois dans cette intervalle la goutte sembloit prêt à éclater, et se manifesta même pendant quelque jours, disparoissant ensuite totalement sans venir à un accès en forme. Durant tout ce tems, *L'Abbé Mann* se trouva

trouva dans un état très foible et très infirme, jusques vers la fin de *Septembre*, que l'humeur goutteuse attaqua les viscères, avec les symptômes les plus formels et les plus effrayans. Ce terrible accès le plus violent, le plus dangereux que l'*Abbé Mann* ait jamais eu, dura tout l'hiver, jusqu'au mois d'*Avril* 1773, environ 7 mois en tout.

Il est à remarquer, que pendant l'accès de 1770, l'humeur goutteuse lui attaqua l'estomac et les viscères inférieurs à l'estomac, et que pendant celui-ci elle attaquoit l'estomac, la poitrine et la tête. En voici une courte description.

Chaque fois que ces accès de la goutte remontée se renouvelloient, et ce fut souvent, la première sensation étoit des maux d'estomac, des nausées, des défaillances. Après quelques heures de cet état, la respiration devenoit gênée et difficile, au point qu'elle paroïssoit presque totalement cesser, et ne se renouvelloit que d'espace en espace.

Ensuite

Ensuite venoit un étranglement et une suffocation, comme si le cou eût été lié et fortement comprimé. La sensation suivante étoit celle d'une humeur froide qui se répandoit dans le cerveau et s'emparoit peu à peu des yeux, des oreilles et de la langue : celle-ci s'enflloit à remplir la bouche et perdoit son mouvement. Dans cet état, privé de la parole et de la vue, le malade n'entendoit la voix de ceux qui étoient auprès de lui, que comme dans une espece d'éloignement. Tout mouvement extérieur, si ce n'est des doigts de la main gauche, cessa de même : et quant à la sensation externe, il n'en resta guère, *quoique l'esprit fût en même tems parfaitement libre et présent.* Dans ces circonstances on lui appliqua les plus forts cataplasmes sur les pieds et ensuite des vésicatoires. Pour le ranimer et le tirer de cet état d'affoupissement qui le menacoit, disoit-on, d'une apoplexie ou d'une paralysie arthritique, les médecins ordonnerent de secouer fortement le malade, de lui frotter la plante des pieds, que les cataplasmes et
les

les vésicatoires avoient rendue une chair crue. Si long tems que duroit cet état d'assoupissement, ou plutôt de privation de sensation externe, ces opérations violentes ne se firent guère sentir au malade : mais à mesure qu'il en revenoit, des douleurs et des tiraillements inexprimables se réveillèrent dans ces endroits. Pendant environ deux mois de tems, il eut au-delà de 20 de ces attaques distinctes, dont les plus courtes étoient de 8 à 10 heures, et la plus longue de 18 heures. Les médecins le crurent plus d'une fois aux abois, et l'en firent avertir en conséquence. Le premier de *Novembre*, surtout, l'en crut qu'il ne passeroit pas la nuit ; quand quelques doses d'*antimoine diaphorétique* produisirent une espèce de crise par des sueurs violentes, qui durèrent pendant 13 heures, et apparemment lui sauvèrent la vie en déchargeant une partie des humeurs goutteuses, mais aussi le laissant dans une foiblesse excessive. Dans les intervalles de ces accès internes, la goutte faisoit ses ravages dans les pieds et les jambes, jusqu'

aux

aux genoux, ainsi que dans la main et le bras droit. Les douleurs, le tiraillement et la contraction des nerfs sans relâche, jour et nuit, passoient toute expression. En même tems les douleurs causées par la colique goutteuse et par la gravelle, n'étoient guère moins vives. Il eut des vomissemens d'humeurs qui sembloient être aussi acides que l'est *l'esprit de nitre*.

Ce fut dans ce triste état que *l'Abbé Mann* passa une partie de *Septembre*, les mois d'*Octobre* & de *Novembre*, avec une partie de *Décembre* 1772. Pendant plus de trois mois ensuite les accès de la goutte se renouvelloient de tems en tems, mais avec beaucoup moins de force, & sans remonter dans les viscères ; & le malade se remettoit peu à peu, quoique fort lentement & avec beaucoup de peine. Il sentit pendant plus de deux ans ensuite, une espece de pésanteur & d'engourdissement dans tout le côté droit depuis la tête jusqu' au pied, qui étoit évidemment une suite de tant de violentes at-

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taques

taques de la goutte, dans toute cette partie du corps, mais elles dissipèrent avec le tems.

Comme un préservatif contre ces terribles attaques, on lui conseilla des cautères ; et dans l'automne de 1773, il s'en fit faire un sous chaque genou. Soit par leur moyen soit d'ailleurs, l'*Abbé Mann* n'a plus eu d'accès de goutte aussi violent & aussi dangereux que ceux qu'il avoit effuyés en 1770 et 1772. Cependant il n'a passé aucune des 4 années suivantes, c'est à dire, jusqu' à l'été de 1777, sans en avoir 2 ou 3 accès dans les pieds and les mains, mais toujours plus ou moins irréguliers & accompagnés de maux d'estomac, de nausées & d'autres symptômes qui prouverent que les viscères étoient plus ou moins atteints de l'humeur goutteuse. Ces attaques duroient ordinairement 3, 4 & 5 semaines, & étoient régulièrement suivies d'accès de *gravelle* pendant un mois ou six semaines, avec des douleurs le plus aigues, & en évacuant des quantités considérables d'une

d'une gravelle rouge. Hors de ces accès de goutte & de gravelle, il ne jouissoit d'une espece de santé que tout au plus pendant 3 ou 4 mois du printems & de l'été: le reste de l'année, il se trouvoit plus ou moins infirme & languissant, enfin dans un état maladif, et souffrant des maux & des douleurs d'une goutte vague, qui sembloit déjà attaquer toute sa constitution.

Dans l'été de 1777, l'*Abbé Mann* changea d'état et de demeure. *Feue Sa Majesté l'Impératrice Reine* demanda à Rome et obtint sa fécularisation de l'ordre des *Chartreux*, et le fixa à *Bruxelles*. On auroit pu croire qu'un changement d'air et de climat, qu'un changement total de diète et de manière de vivre, auroient produit un changement signalé en mieux dans sa constitution ; mais non : les deux années suivantes jusqu'à l'été de 1779, il fut tout autant tourmenté que jamais de la goutte et de ses suites. Il étoit toujours infirme, toujours souffrant, et ayant des accès formels de la goutte comme

les années précédentes. La difficulté de digestion, les aigreurs, l'incapacité de marcher et de faire de l'exercice, augmentoient au lieu de diminuer. Une demi-heure de promenade l'accabloit, l'abattoit, et lui faisoit souvent assez de mal pour le faire tomber presque en défaillance. Tout le monde lui conseilloit de l'exercice comme le seul remède à ses maux ; et il se trouvoit hors d'état d'en faire, à cause de la foiblesse et de la roideur de ses jointures.

Cet état dura jusqu' à l'*automne* de 1778, qu'il sentit pendant plusieurs semaines tous les symptômes précurseurs d'un violent accès de goutte. Il en fut attaqué en effet au commencement du mois de *Novembre*, et peu après les humeurs rémonterent dans l'estomac and les autres viscères, et même dans la tête, avec des symptômes et des effets pareils à ceux qu'il avoit sentis en *Octobre* et *Novembre* 1772, et qui sont décrits plus haut. Après quelques jours de cet état, les accès devenant plus graves et résistant à tout
ce

ce qu'on avoit fait jusqu' alors pour fixer la goutte dans les extrémités, on lui appliqua des vésicatoires sur le gros de chaque jambe. Ils produisirent un bon effet, en attirant l'humeur goutteuse des viscères, et en la déchargeant en partie. Mais le malade resta long tems dans une grande foiblesse et dans un extrême abattement, et de petits accès de goutte ne cessèrent de se renouveler, avec peu de jours d'intervalle, jusqu' au printems suivant. Sa capacité de marcher et de faire quelque exercice, ainsi que ses facultés digestives, étoient devenues plus foibles que jamais. Toute sa nourriture tourna en aigreurs, et produisit des vomissemens continuels, et quelquefois jusqu'au sang. Sa constitution, depuis long tems, avoit été extrêmement relâchée, mais ce relâchement ensuite du dernier accès de la goutte (en *Novembre 1778*) étoit devenu plus grand & plus sensible que jamais. Une diète peu convenable, qu'il se trouvoit dans le cas d'observer pendant sa convalescence et pendant la carême de 1779, y avoit sans doute contribué.

contribué. Ce n'est pas tout : cet excessif relâchement produisit une affection nouvelle, que l'*Abbé Mann* n'avoit jamais expérimenté, au moins à beaucoup près dans le même degré. Tout le système nerveux paroissoit atteint par l'humeur âcre de la goutte ; ce qui se fit sentir par des spasmes et des contractions de nerfs et par des irritations affreuses. Si l'*Abbé Mann* a senti des douleurs plus violentes et plus aiguës dans les grands accès de la goutte qu'il a eu en 1770 et en 1772, il n'en a jamais senti d'aussi insupportables que ces irritations nerveuses, parce qu'elles affectoient l'esprit autant que le corps, et rendoient souvent la vie même insupportable.

Voilà l'état où il se trouva dans le printemps de 1779 : dégouté des médecins et de la médecine, avec peu d'espérance et même avec peu d'envie de voir prolonger plus long tems sa vie, qui n'étoit qu'une tiffure de souffrances. Des personnes respectables qui s'interressoient pour lui, obtinrent de *Mr. Himmelbaur, chirurgien de l'état,*
major

major des armées de sa Majesté l'Empereur et Roi, de visiter l'Abbé Mann autant comme ami que comme médecin, et de gagner peu à peu sa confiance. Il le fit vers le fin du carême, et commença par changer toute sa diète, et par lui prescrire quelques remèdes calmans et adoucissans. Après quelque tems l'Abbé Mann proposa lui même à cet habile praticien, l'usage interne de la Ciguë, la regardant uniquement comme un calmant. M. Himmelbaur approuva la proposition, déclarant qu'il avoit désiré de faire cet essai, mais qu'il avoit en quelque difficulté de la proposer lui même : il ajouta qu'il regardoit l'extrait de Ciguë, non seulement comme un calmant, mais aussi comme un tres-puissant fondant et correctif de l'âcreté des humeurs, et comme très propre à établir une bonne digestion. En consequence de cette resolution l'Abbé Mann commença au mois d'Avril 1779, l'usage de l'extrait de Ciguë, préparé a Vienne d'après la methode de Mons. le Baron de Storck, auquel, quelque tems après, Mons. Himmelbaur ajouta l'extrait d'Aconit,

d' *Aconit*, préparé également à *Vienne* après le même célèbre médecin; et c'est de-là que l' *Abbé Mann* a eu tout ce qu'il a pris de ces extraits jusqu' à présent. Ils se donnent en pilules de 2 *grains* chacune.

Au commencement il prit la *Ciguë* seule 3 fois par jour, et 4 pilules ou 8 *grains* chaque fois. A mesure qu'il s'y accoutumoit, il augmenta la dose, et y ajouta une pilule d' *Aconit*. Ensuite, après 5 ou 6 mois d'usage, il prit journellement de ces deux extraits ensemble jusqu' à 100 ou 120 grains, mais ordinairement dans la proportion d'une pilule d' *Aconit* contre 5 ou 6 pilules de *Ciguë*, et c'est dans cette même proportion qu'il les prend encore à présent, quoiqu'en beaucoup moindre quantité que les deux premières années, pendant lesquelles la goutte continua encore de tems en tems de le menacer. A ces deux extraits, il a ajouté l'usage de la mixture suivante prescrite par *M. Himelbaur*:

Prenez

Prenez camph. mucilag. gumm. arab. &
 sacch. can. ana. drach. I.—exactè tritis
 & mixt. add. nitr. purif. drach. fs.
 Aceti vin. cal. unc. fs.——Syr. papav.
 rhæad. unc. VI.—misc. ad us.

Et de tems en tems il a pris une dose de *rhubarbe*. Voilà les seules médecines dont l'*Abbé Mann* s'est servi pendant quatre ans, et n'observant d'autre régime que celui de manger des choses saines et de facile digestion : voici les effets qui s'en sont suivis.

Les premiers trois mois qu'il prenoit la *Ciguë*, il n'en éprouva aucun effet sensible ni en bien ni en mal : il commençoit même à désespérer d'en ressentir aucun bon effet ; mais *M. Himmelbaur* ne cessant de l'exhorter à en continuer l'usage, et à y joindre celui de l'*Aconit*, il le fit, et peu après il sentit une espece de liberté dans ses jointures, et une facilité de marcher, qu'il n'avoit pas

eue depuis long tems. Bientôt les spasmes et les irritations nerveuses diminuèrent très sensiblement. Encouragé par ces bons succès, il redoubla de zèle pour l'usage de ces remèdes, et avant l'hiver de la même année, il s'en servit déjà dans les plus grandes doses. La digestion se fortifia, et les aigreurs qui l'avoient tourmenté sans relâche depuis tant d'années, diminuèrent à mesure. C'étoit déjà avoir beaucoup gagné. Pendant l'hiver de 1779 à 1780, l'*Abbé Mann* se trouva, nombre de fois, menacé de la goutte, et crut à tout moment qu'un accès alloit se déclarer. Tout l'hiver passa cependant, sans qu'il en eût aucune attaque. Le printems ensuite il se trouva déjà en état de marcher avec aisance, ses jointures devenoient de plus en plus libres et se fortifioient. Il ne négligea pas ce changement en mieux : il s'en servit pour redoubler son exercice, et a ne plus l'interrompre ni l'hiver ni l'été. Mais l'effet le plus notable et essentiel qu'il trouva, c'étoit dans ses facultés digestives :

digestives : les indigestions et les aigreurs devinrent peu à peu aussi rares, qu'elles avoient été auparavant fréquentes et incommodes. Il trouvoit déjà, et il trouve encore, si par hasard les aigreurs le prennent (ce qui est rare), que quelques pilules de *Ciguë* ou d'*Aconit*, les font passer à l'instant, d'une manière que jamais *magnésie* ou autre absorbant n'a fait chez lui, et sans charger l'estomac en aucune façon, comme lui fait toujours la *magnésie*. Pendant l'hiver de 1780 à 1781, il sentit de tems en tems quelques légers symptômes de la goutte, mais sans avoir eu aucun accès ; et depuis lors, jusqu'aux symptômes mêmes de cette maladie ont disparu : sa santé s'est confirmée et fortifiée de plus en plus, jusqu'à ignorer presque les indigestions, les aigreurs, les irritations de nerfs et autre symptômes de cette espèce, et jusqu'à faire 3 ou 4 lieues de chemin sans s'arrêter et sans en être gêné ou fatigué ensuite. Il est à observer que par l'effet de ces remèdes fondans, aussi-bien que par un

exercice constant, il a beaucoup diminué de son embonpoint.

Une dernière circonstance qui prouve jusqu' à quel point toute la constitution de l'*Abbé Mann* est changée par un usage assidu des susdits remèdes, c'est que lui qui, pendant plus que 16 ans, avoit été assujetti à une maladie chronique avec toutes ses suites d'aigreurs, &c. sans savoir ce que c'étoit que d'être troublé de la bile, a dû depuis quelque tems se servir fréquemment du jus de citrons et d'autres acides contre la bile : et enfin il vient d'avoir une *fièvre bilieuse* inflammatoire, suite des grandes chaleurs de l'été passé, et d'une *diarrhée* qui l'a pris jusqu' à 4 fois aux mois de *Juillet* et d'*Août*, et qu' au lieu de bien évacuer, il a autant de fois arrêtée par une nourriture astringente et constipante: Cette fièvre s'est dissipée en grand partie par la voie d'une *erisypele* dans la jambe gauche; et la bile n'étoit pas plutôt évacuée, que le convalescent a dû

a dû avoir recours de nouveau à la *Ciguë* et à l'*Aconit*, pour reprimer les aigreurs qui se formoient ensuite de sa maladie. Elles sont déjà réprimées, et sa santé s'est rétablie dans le même ou meilleur état qu'avant cette maladie. Voilà la relation très exacte d'un fait certain,—l'*Abbé Mann* abandonne à d'autres le soin de raisonner là dessus.

31^e de *Fevrier*, 1784.

* * * The above is a faithful copy, except here and there an error, no way material as to facts, and which the reader will correct, or place to the mistakes of the Editor.

The

The Substance of the foregoing singular Gouty Case, and Cure, by the internal Use of the Extract of Hemlock and Wolfsbane, prepared according to Dr. STORCK's Method, rendered into English, from M. L'Abbé MANN.*

THE Abbé Mann commences the narrative of his sufferings, by informing his readers, that, soon after his education was finished, he served in a military capacity in

* The Editor had two large boxes of the above pills prepared at Brussels by the *same* apothecary whom Abbé Mann has always employed, and which are at the service of any gentleman or gouty person who wishes to try their effect; observing, however, that it is a year since they were prepared.

Spain,

Spain *, and then was accustomed to use much bodily exercise : but having a strong propensity to reading and to study, (in order to indulge his natural disposition) he quitted the Spanish service, and became a member of a religious order, called the *Chartreux*, in Flanders, at about the age of twenty-five.

That in 1763, being then in his 29th year, he was attacked with arthritic pains, which by intervals were very violent, and which continued for some months, but without his knowing what they tended to ;

* In a conversation the Editor had with Abbé Mann last summer at Brussels, it appeared that the Abbé was honoured with the friendship of General Wall, during his residence in Spain ; of whom he speaks in the highest terms of gratitude for favours received, the admiration of his talents, and the noble manner in which he lived in that kingdom after he retired from the business of the State.

his

his feet were much affected, but not so as to prevent his walking, though with some difficulty ; nor did the disorder leave him during the winters sixty-three and sixty-four, but continued to be troublesome to the spring following ; at which time, the Abbé was nominated Prior of the English convent called the *Chartreux*, at Nieuport, in Flanders : a few days after which nomination, he was seized with a violent fever, which was soon followed by a severe fit of the gout, in both his feet. But, as the fever did not abate, those who attended him, thought it proper to bleed him three times. The consequence was, that the gout quitted his feet, and the malady fixed itself in his stomach, accompanied with a nausea, weakness, and pains, to which he was a stranger, while the gout was on the extremities. In this condition he remained for about six weeks, and then he

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began,

began, though by very slow degrees, to recover his former health. During the remainder of the year 1764, till the spring 1765, the Abbé had several short fits of the gout, sometimes in the feet, though, in general, what is called the gout flying about him. His new appointment, however, laying him under a necessity of using much exercise, both on horseback and on foot, for a period of two years and a half following, he enjoyed tolerable good health.

But before I proceed to relate the subsequent severe sufferings Abbé Mann endured, it may be necessary to give the well-founded reasons which he thinks contributed much to render his constitution subject to such frequent and severe attacks of the gout. First, That from the year 1756 till 1764, he applied himself to constant and intense study, for thirteen or fourteen
hours

hours every day, without allowing himself the proper time of repose at, and after his meals, nor did the night always interrupt his application.—Secondly, That from the time he became a member of the religious community, he enjoyed less air, and used less exercise.—Thirdly, The change from the fine warm climate of Spain, to that of Flanders, (and, he might have added, to that of Nieuport, the worst in all Flanders,) where he was exposed to excessive cold, and where he spent seven or eight hours every day in the church, winter and summer, three of which were in the middle of the night.—Fourthly, That after he became the Superior at Nieuport, he was deprived of his natural repose, seldom going to rest till after one, and rising again before five in the morning; and this austere course of life he continued to follow till his disorder, in 1769, compelled him to relinquish it.

Such the Abbé Mann believes (and no doubt but they are well founded) were the principal causes which injured his constitution, and which fixed upon him such an extreme gouty habit of body; for, from the autumn 1768 to the summer 1779, he hath not passed a year without one, two, three, or four formidable fits of the gout; seldom enjoying above three or four months in a year of tolerable good health. In the year 1768, the gout again seized him in the stomach, attended with all the usual symptoms of nausea, &c. after which it fell upon his lungs, and to such a degree, that he narrowly escaped suffocation. He was bled twice in the feet, but found no relief, and for some time continued rather worse; but in June 1770, some pressing affairs of the house over which he presided, obliged him to take a journey to Brussels in very bad weather; on which journey he suffered the greatest misery imaginable, both
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in his stomach and reins, which terminated in one of his former severe fits of the gout, and it was with the utmost difficulty he was able to return home, where he was laid up for six weeks with a regular fit of the gout in both feet and one hand. During this attack, cataplasms were applied to his feet, and one to his ankle, which drew the humours with so much force, that they ran above the interior ankle of his leg, leaving a weakness in it, which he feels even to this day. In the month of March following, when he had reason to flatter himself with a respite from his misery, he was again attacked with the gout in his stomach and bowels, with returns every eight or ten days, till the 22d of April, when it fell with more violence than ever, attended with contractions, continual vomiting, &c. so that his life was despaired of, being for four or five days without

without one minute's respite from his misery. The Abbé's sufferings in this fit were such that are not to be described, and he was nearly a whole year in this deplorable condition : in short, the indigestions, heart-burn, and variety of gouty symptoms, did not quit him till nine years after, as will appear by the subsequent narration. For the two following years he had many (mostly regular) fits of the gout, being attacked only in the hands or feet, but the right hand was always first invaded : these fits generally lasted three weeks or a month. In the beginning of the year 1772, he suffered two months under a most grievous fit in both feet and his right hand, to a degree not to be described ; but it was a regular fit, and did not affect the vitals. In the summer 1772, the Abbé became very infirm, was subject to pains, soreness, indigestion, violent sickness, &c. and his friends

friends advised him to follow the regimen prescribed by Dr. Cadogan. In consequence of this advice, the Abbé Mann, with a *cold, weak, and relaxed stomach*, drank only pure water for near four months, and followed Dr. Cadogan's regimen as closely as his condition would permit. During this course of diet, &c. the gout made two attempts to seize him, but went off, after some days threatenings, without coming to a crisis : but he continued in a very weak and languid condition till the end of September, at which time the gout attacked his bowels, attended with the most alarming and frightful symptoms, and proved the most dangerous and severe fit the Abbé had ever yet suffered under, it continuing all the winter, nay, even up to April 1773, a duration of seven months ! Here Abbé Mann observes, that, pending his fit of
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the gout in 1770, the gouty humour attacked the stomach and bowels ; but in the seven months fit, the lungs and head were much incommoded : which he describes by observing, that whenever the fits, which were very frequent, came on, they approached him by a painful sensation in the stomach, nausea, qualms, fainting fits, &c. and in a few hours after, the respiration became very painful and difficult, infomuch that, at times, the action of the lungs seemed to cease, and he felt contractions, choaking, &c. almost to suffocation, or as if the neck had been bound, or contracted by pressure. These symptoms were succeeded by a cold humour, which diffused itself over the brain, so that his eyes and ears almost lost their powers, and his tongue swelled so as to fill his mouth, and deprived him of speech ; and though he could hear what was

was

was said by those who were near him, the sound came as from persons afar off! In this condition he remained without the power of any exterior motion, except with a finger or two of the left hand. Thus deprived of all exterior motion, the Abbé Mann lay motionless, WHILE HIS MIND ALONE POSSESSED ALL ITS FACULTIES, CLEAR AND UNEMBARRASSED.

Strong cataplasms were applied to his feet, he was blistered, and the physicians, under the idea of an approaching apoplexy, ordered his body to be violently shook, and his feet (almost raw with cataplasms and blisters) to be well rubbed, his body being then insensible to all exterior violence; but he became soon afterwards, too sensible of the violent operations they had performed upon him, by the tortures he endured.

For two months the Abbé suffered above twenty distinct attacks, the shortest of which lasted about eight or ten hours, the longest eighteen; and his physicians thought him so near death, that they informed him of their apprehensions. In one of these violent fits, which seized him on the first of November, his physicians were so alarmed, that some doses of antimony were administered, which threw him into a violent sweat, and thereby so discharged the gouty humour, that he considers it the means of saving his life, as he continued in it for thirteen hours, but left him in a very weak and low condition. When the gout did not invade the patient inwardly, it ceased not to make its ravages on his feet, legs, knees, right hand and arm, attended with tormenting pains, contractions, &c. both night and day; and these were aggravated by a cholic and the gravel, at which time he frequently vomited

mitted viscid humours which seemed as sharp as the spirits of nitre: and in this deplorable condition he passed the months of September, October, November, and part of December 1772; and for three months after, he had frequent fits of the gout, but less violent, and without any attempts on his stomach.

He now began, by slow approaches, to recover his health and strength; though he felt for more than two years afterwards, a numbness and heaviness on his right side, from head to foot. As a preventive to subsequent attacks, he was now advised to cut some issues, and in the autumn 1773, he opened two, one under each knee, since which he has not had any fits of the gout so severe, or dangerous, as those he laboured under from 1770 to 1772. Nevertheless, he did not pass any of the four following years,

i. e. till the summer 1777, without two or three fits of the gout, in the feet or hands, but always more or less irregular, and accompanied with the usual nausea, and other symptoms of the gouty matter affecting the intestines. These attacks generally lasted three or four weeks, and were always followed with a gravelly disorder and the evacuation of a great quantity of red sand; but even when he was free from these fits of the gout, and gravel, he enjoyed only a small portion of health, during three or four months from the spring of the year.

In the summer 1777 her late Majesty the Empress Queen, obtained from Rome, the Abbé Mann's secularization, and fixed him in a more comfortable situation at Brussels. The change of air, manner of life, food, climate, &c. &c. gave him good reason to hope for a change of constitution also; but
on

on the contrary, the two following years, until the summer 1779, he suffered as much as ever with the gout, and all its train of misery, remaining always infirm, and attacked at times with regular fits as usual; his incapacity to walk or use exercise, rather increased than diminished; half an hour's walk oppressed and overcame him: he knew that exercise was necessary, but alas! he was unable to partake of it from weakness and stiffness in his joints; and in this situation he continued, till the autumn 1778, when he again felt all those alarming symptoms which he knew to be prognostics of a violent fit of the gout, and with which he was seized in the month of November, and endured all those grievous symptoms and effects over again, which he had so severely smarted under in October and November 1772. After a few days his fit became more serious than ever, and resisted every means
used

used to fix it in the extremities : blisters were applied to both his feet, and he remained a long time in a very languishing condition, continually suffering under short fits, till the following spring, and he became less able to walk than ever ; sickness, vomiting, sometimes bringing up blood ; his food turned sour on his stomach, and he was in every respect emaciated, and worn down, to which the diet he was obliged to observe during the lent 1779 no doubt contributed not a little ; and he now suffered under a malady he had hitherto been a stranger to. A nervous disorder seized him, attended with violent spasms, contractions, and irritations ; and though he might have endured more pain in his former fits of the gout, he never had before felt any which were less supportable, because in this last attack, both body and mind were equally and cruelly invaded,

Such

Such was the condition of Abbé Mann in the year 1779, when tired with physicians, and disgusted with physic, without hope or desire to prolong a life of such misery, some of his friends brought to him Monsieur Himelbaur, surgeon major to his Imperial Majesty the Emperor's army. Monsieur Himelbaur, towards the latter end of the carnival, made a change in the Abbé's diet, and prescribed some medicines which he thought would mitigate his sufferings; at which time Monsieur l'Abbé Mann mentioned a desire he had, of trying what the internal use of hemlock and wolfsbane would do upon so gouty and wretched a constitution. Monsieur Himelbaur highly approved making the experiment, adding, that it was what he wished to have proposed himself, but found some difficulty and delicacy in being the *first proposer*; for he considered those medicines as power-
fully

fully dissolvent, correctors of acrimonious humours: a most efficacious medicine: and highly proper to establish a good digestion. In consequence of this EXCELLENT CONSULTATION, the Abbé Mann began, in the month of April 1779, to take the extract of hemlock, prepared at Vienna, according to the method prescribed by Monsieur le Baron Storck ; to which, some time after, Monsieur Himmelbaur added the extract of libbardsbane, called by some wolfsbane or monkshood, also prepared at Vienna after the method of the same celebrated physician. And it is from Vienna, that the Abbé has had all that he has taken to this day. It is prepared in pills of two grains each. At first, he took the hemlock alone, three times a day, four pills, or eight grains each time. He then augmented the dose, by adding a pill of the libbardsbane. After taking these

these pills five or six months, he took daily of the two extracts, a hundred or a hundred and twenty grains, but commonly in the proportion of one pill of libbardsbane to five or six of the hemlock extract; and in this proportion he takes it to this day, although in much less quantity than he did the two first years, during which time, the gout continued from time to time to *menace him*; and therefore, to his usual medicine, he added, by the direction of Monsieur Himelbaur, the following:

Take of camphire mucilage, of gum arabic and sugar candy, of each a drachm: to these, being first well rubbed and mixed together, add of purified nitre half a dram, half an ounce of white wine vinegar warm, and six ounces of syrup of poppies. Mix these for use.*

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And

* Either Monsieur l'Abbé Mann has omitted to mention

And except now and then a dose of rhubarb these are the only medicines that Monsieur l'Abbé Mann has made use of, during four years of health; nor has he observed any other regimen, than that of eating wholesome food, of easy digestion. The effects produced by the above medicines Abbé Mann thus describes.

For the first three months that he took the hemlock extract, he found no very sensible effect, either for the better or worse; and he began to despair of any good effect; but Monsieur Himmelbaur urged him to persevere, and to add to it the

mention the quantity he took of this powerful medicine, or the Editor's friend who copied it has overlooked it; and therefore it may be proper to observe, that an eminent physician, to whom the Editor shewed it, is of opinion, that a table-spoonful is rather too large a quantity to be taken at once.

libbardsbane, which he complied with, and in a short time after, his joints seemed in some measure to recover their freedom, and he could walk with greater facility than he had done for a long time ! The spasms and nervous irritations began to diminish very sensibly also. Thus encouraged by such favourable omens, and the constant use of the medicines, he redoubled his zeal in taking them, and before the winter he took very large doses, and found himself to improve in health daily, his digestion became better, the soreness he had for so many years suffered under, diminished, and he found he had gained, in some measure, a victory over his disorders.

During the winter 1779 to 1780, he was, however, alarmed with the previous symptoms of a re-attack, but fortunately they proved only menaces, for he escaped all

the winter following, and in the spring, he found himself able to walk with ease, his joints became more and more free, and he collected strength in proportion. Nor did he neglect to improve this state to use exercise, &c. to which he met with no interruption either in winter or in summer: but the most essential effects he perceived by these medicines, were the improvement of the digestive faculties, his former indigestion, and soreness of stomach diminished greatly, and he found then, and still finds, that if he is incommoded by any of his former soreness, &c. (which he rarely feels) the pills of the two extracts soon remove it, and in a manner that magnesia, or other absorbent medicines, never effected.

From the winter 1780 to that of 1781, he has felt now and then some slight symptoms

toms of the gout, but never had any fit, since which the symptoms have all disappeared, and HIS HEALTH IS THOROUGHLY ESTABLISHED: he can now walk, and does frequently walk, three or four leagues, without being fatigued, or requiring rest, or feeling any bad consequence therefrom.—

Abbé Mann concludes his relation of this his most singular cure, by observing that by the dissolving powers of the medicines he took, all the other complaints he laboured under for sixteen years are also removed. During the great heats of last summer, Abbé Mann was seized with a violent inflammatory and bilious fever, and diarrhœa, which went off by means of an erysipelas in his left leg. He then had recourse to his old medicine of hemlock and libbardsbane, to remove the soreness brought on by his fever, and he now enjoys better health than ever he enjoyed before: concluding

cluding his narrative by asserting, that what he has given is a certain fact, and modestly resigns the reasoning thereon, to better judges than himself.

The Editor therefore thinks proper to desire such, who mean to pursue the same means Abbé Mann did to remove the gout, to attend more to the Abbé's own ACCOUNT, than to the Editor's vague and perhaps, in some instances, erroneous relation of it. But he cannot lay down his pen without observing, that Abbé Mann's cure has not been, like unto those who have *cured the gout, by killing the patient*; for he is now in perfect health, and instead of bearing that corpulence of body which he had formerly to support, his *embonpoint* is just what it should be in a man of his age, and above the common size of men. He therefore has nothing more to add, but to observe,

serve, that as those afflicted with the gout abroad have had the benefit of Abbé Mann's case and cure, (for it has been circulated in foreign parts,) that the same information may extend among his own countrymen; and if it tends to the relief of others, it will be an act of kindness in those who are benefited thereby, to do, as Abbé Mann has done, by publishing it to the world at large.

☞ Abbé Mann is of opinion, that the hemlock and wolfsbane of Vienna, by growing on a drier soil, is superior to that which grows in Britain; but an eminent physician* assures the Editor, that the growth of this country is very powerful, which he is convinced of from a long and frequent use of it among his patients, in various disorders; which prove that hemlock and wolfsbane are not such frightful medicines as is generally imagined, but on the contrary, that they may be taken without fear, and with the most flattering hope of success.

* Dr. Thicknesse, of Wigan.

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